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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: 71396

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : BLUM et al.  
Serial No : 10/506,416  
Confirm. No : 8449  
Filed : May 13, 2004  
For : METHOD OF PRODUCING...  
Art Unit : 1742  
Examiner : N/A  
Dated : December 5, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO

NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

Prior to initial examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows: